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*Coire, November* 18. *N. S.*

SINCE Monſieur Maſner, who is a Counſellor here, and his Imperial Majeſty's Chief Commiſſary for the Paſſage of the Troops of the Allies through this Country, had the Reſolution to ſeize the Grand Prior of France in Repriſal for his Son, the Partiſans of the French Court have, by Menaces and Inſtigations under-hand, endeavoured to terrify him with the high Reſentments of his moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, who would not fail to Revenge an Inſult done to a Prince of his Family; but it is believed the Griſons will not think themſelves obliged to give Satisfaction in this Point, it being a private Matter of Monſieur Maſner's, to which the Uſage he had received from the Count du Luc, the French Ambaſſador, gave Occaſion, who abuſed the Faith and Confidence he had put in his Word and Honour, by not ſetting his Son at Liberty according to Agreement; beſide, that Monſieur Maſner ſeized the Grand Prior in a Diſtrict belonging to the Emperor, without the Knowledge of this State, and immediately carried him to Balzers, a Place in the Empire, and has ſince removed him, for greater Security, to Feldkirken, which is a Town further up in the Emperor's Territories, where he is put out of the Power of the Griſons to releaſe him. A Courier arrived here three Days ago from Soleure, and brought a Letter from the French Ambaſſador to this Republick, which is wrote in a Stile peculiar to the Miniſters of that Nation. He treats Monſieur Maſner with great Scorn, and hopes the Griſons will puniſh him. He Demands the Enlargement of the Grand Prior, and all his Retinue, without Delay, and deſires that a general Aſſembly of the Griſons may be called, to return him as ſpeedy an Anſwer as poſſible. This Incident employs us here at preſent, and a Congreſs of the Heads of the three Leagues is now Aſſembled, in order to Conſult what is fit to be done; after which the Affair will be decided in a General Meeting of all the Commons of this Republick. The Baron de Greuth, his Imperial Majeſty's Envoy here, has received Orders to Support and Protect Monſieur Maſner in his Enterprize, to which the French had given ſo high a Provocation.

*Berne, November* 22. *N. S.* A French Man of War called the Eclatant is fitting out at Toulon, and will ſail ſome time this Month for Conſtantinople, to bring home the French Ambaſſador from thence. Beſides the twenty eight Squadrons of Horſe and Dragoons detached from the Duke of Berwick's Army for Rouſſillon, the Regiment of Crony, conſiſting of three Squadrons, had Orders to March thither. The whole Detachment was to Rendezvous at Perpignan the 30th; but the Foot had Orders to halt, and it was ſaid that their number would be conſiderably leſſened. The French continue to give out, that they ſtill deſign to Beſiege Gironne; for which purpoſe the Chevalier Blanckar, an Engineer much eſteemed in France, was ordered to go and join the Duke of Noailles. We are kept much in the Dark here as to what paſſes in Spain, and know nothing more than what the French are pleaſed to tell us, which is ſo diſguiſed, that we cannot give much Credit to it. Our Letters from Genoa and Milan make the ſame Complaint; and the reaſon in all appearance is, that the Enemy find ways to intercept his Catholick Majeſty's Couriers in ſo long a Paſſage as that between Madrid and Barcelona. The Affair of Monſieur Maſner makes a great Noiſe here; and as the French had given him ſo juſt an Occaſion of making Repriſals, it is thought he will be powerfully ſupported.

*Hague, December* 5. *N. S.* The Duke of Marlborough and the Prince of Savoy are continually taken up, with the Members of this Government, in concerting the Publick Affairs, and have not yet fixed any time for leaving this Place. Monſieur de Bothmar, with the Britiſh General Officers and others, are detained at Helvoet-ſluys by contrary Winds. Our laſt Letters from Paris of any Credit, give us hopes that our Affairs in Spain go better than the French would generally make us believe they do. His Catholick Majeſty ſeems determined to maintain his Winter Quarters in Caſtille, and by ſeveral Parties he keeps a Communication from Saragoſſa to the Country of la Mancha; by this Means he has it in his Power to awe the Province of Andaluſia, and will be ſupplied with Horſes and Proviſions from that and the neighbouring Countries. The Duke of Alva has given out, that King Charles had quitted Madrid, but his News is not believed, the two Armies in that Country continuing in their former Poſts.

*Bruſſels, December* 6. *N. S.* The Advices we have here from St. Sebaſtian of the 18th of November ſay, that his Catholick Majeſty continued to be Maſter of Madrid, and that the main Body of his Army lay extended from Aranjuez to Toledo, where the Fortifications were perfecting with all Diligence. Thoſe Letters aſſure us, that Cuidad Real on the River Guadiana, and ſeveral other Towns had ſubmitted to King Charles, whoſe Forces were reckoned to be Superior in number to thoſe of the Enemy. The Duke of Anjou was not yet removed from his former Camp at Caſa-Texada, where his Troops, being for the moſt part new raiſed Men, Deſerted in great Numbers, which was chiefly attributed to the Hardſhips they underwent from the ill ſituation of the Place, and the want of neceſſary Supplies of Proviſions. The Ordinary Letters from Paris talk of the Affairs in Spain according to their uſual Stile; and though they would make us believe that our Troops had quitted Madrid, yet they don't pretend that the Duke of Anjou had taken Poſſeſſion of it, who was ſtill at Caſa-Texada, and had only ſent a Detachment of Horſe to obſerve the Motions of Count Staremberg. That General, according to the Report of Priſoners, had no deſign to abandon Caſtille; but rather made ſeveral feints by Marches and Countermarches, in order to get ſome Advantage of the Enemy by Surprize. The Tumults which happened in Britany and Normandy, on account of the Tax of the Tenth Penny, are ſaid to have been appeaſed by the approach of ſome Regular Troops which were ſent that way from the Frontier Garriſons. There have alſo been great Diſorders at Lyons, occaſioned by the ſame Oppreſſive Impoſition, and the violent Methods made uſe of by the Intendant in executing the Edict. Several Merchants and Bankers who refuſed to ſubmit to the exorbitant Rates they were taxed at, have been confined to their Houſes, and Guards of Soldiers ſet upon them. We have no Accounts from the Army under the Duke of Noailles. The great Rains, and the overflowing of the Rivers, have much retarded the March of the Troops which were going to join him; beſides, that the Fatigues they ſuffer by marching in ſuch a Seaſon, will render them unfit for Service 'till they have been refreſhed for ſome Weeks. The Diſcourſe continues of beſieging Gironne;